

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 1321
By Hargett

A RESOLUTION to recognize Bobby G. Wood on the occasion of his retirement from the House of Representatives of the Tennessee general Assembly.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that the members of this legislative body should honor our colleagues who in their years in office have performed with uncommon devotion and enthusiasm; and

WHEREAS, Representative Bobby G. Wood is one such estimable person who has served with distinction for 28 years as Representative of the 26th House District in Hamilton County; senior member of the House GOP caucus, his service to and concern for his constituents has been unparalleled; and

WHEREAS, having served with great distinction in the 90th through the 103rd General Assemblies, Representative Wood will be taking a much deserved retirement after the expiration of his current term; and

WHEREAS, born September 21, 1935, in Fyffe, Alabama, to James H. and Verdrey Iva Hicks Wood, Bobby Wood moved at an early age with his parents to Hamilton County, and graduated from Chattanooga Central High School in 1953; he attended the University of Tennessee at both its Chattanooga and Knoxville campuses from 1960-62 and graduated from Chicago Advance Traffic College in 1964; and

WHEREAS, Representative Wood started his employment career with Chattanooga Glass Company, rising from dock worker in 1953 to national corporate traffic manager; in 1985, he became Director of Community Relations for Hospital Corporation of America's Crossroads Center in Chattanooga and since 1986 he has been the owner and President of Carriage Hill Insurance Company; and

WHEREAS, during his long career in the House of Representatives, Bobby Wood has served at one time or another on the House standing committees of State and Local Government, Commerce, Education, Transportation, Finance, Ways and Means and Government Operations, as well as on the Fiscal Review Committee and a number of important subcommittees; his colleagues on both sides of the aisle accord him high marks for his legislative acumen, skill in debate, and thorough knowledge of complex state government issues; and

WHEREAS, Representative Wood has sponsored or supported such important legislation as the "Home School Act," the Tennessee Public Television Act, the Tennessee Environmental Clean-Tennessee Act, and the Tennessee Uniform Discipline Code, a seven-bill package to combat school violence, to name a few; in 2000 he sponsored legislation to bring TennCare benefits in line with the state healthcare plan; and

WHEREAS, no stranger to honors and accolades, Bobby Wood was the recipient of the Public Speech Award in 1982, the Valley Forge Freedom Foundation's George Washington Award in 1980, and the Southern Area Toastmasters' Humorous Speaker Award in 1976, among many others; in 2003 he was named a Legislative Hero by the Tennessee Home School Association; and

WHEREAS, Bobby Wood is an active and important part of his community and his profession, participating in numerous worthy organizations, including service as Chairman of the Chattanooga Area Family of the Year Committee; 1976 Chairman of National Transportation Week in Chattanooga; former President of the Hillcrest Youth Association, Central High Alumni Association, and Chattanooga Toastmasters; former Tennessee Director for the American Exchange Council; a member of the Board of Directors of Project 714 Drug Prevention Program, Chemical People Drug Awareness Program, Young Men's Christian Association, and Teen Challenge Drug Abuse Program; and

WHEREAS, Representative Wood is also a member of the National Conference of State Legislatures, World Trade Council, National Platform Speakers Association, Toastmasters of America, Chattanooga Golden Gloves Association, Chattanooga Transportation Club, the Exchange Club, the Full Gospel Businessmen's Association, the Pachyderm Club and the Tennessee Historical Society; and

WHEREAS, Bobby Wood is a devout and faithful member of the Ooltewah Church of God, which he has long served as a member of the council and as a Sunday school teacher; possessing a deep religious faith and a pristine sense of ethics and honor, he has been considered the "Conscience of the House" and is the founder of the weekly Legislative Devotional, a revered institution on Capitol Hill; and

WHEREAS, Bobby Wood exemplifies the spirit and allegiance to family and community that are characteristic of a true Tennessean; he was happily married for 36 years to his late first wife, Gladys Eldridge Wood, the mother of his sons; and

WHEREAS, he enjoys the love and support of his wife, Jeanne Wolf Wood and sons, Bobby Glendon Wood, Jr. and Jonathan Bret Wood; he is the doting grandfather of Cole, Elaina and Addison Wood; and

WHEREAS, throughout his long and estimable legislative career, Representative Wood has demonstrated the utmost professionalism, ability and integrity, winning the unbridled respect and admiration of his constituents, his colleagues in the House of Representatives, as well as the members of the Senate; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we bid a fond farewell, but not goodbye, to our friend and colleague, Representative Bobby G. Wood, extend to him our heartfelt wishes for a happy and fulfilling retirement, every continued success in his future endeavors, and much happiness in the years to come.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.